

A
COMPARISON
Between the
ISRAELITISH
AND
BRITISH Women,
IN
Stabbornness and Proneness
TO
IDOLATRY.

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LADY
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*Ancient and modern Idolatry
parallel'd.*

Being a
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Between the
ISRAELITISH
AND
BRITISH Women,
IN
Stubbornness and Proneness
TO
IDOLATRY.

Written by a LADY,
In hopes to convince some of her
Sex of their Error.

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COMPARISON

ISRAEL



BRITISH WOMEN

and [illegible]

IDOLATRY

Written by [illegible]
in hopes to convince some of the
Sex of their Error

LONDON Printed by [illegible]
[illegible]

THE
PREFACE.

LADIES,

I Do expect all your Re-
proaches in such Words as
Eliab to David; With
whom hast thou left those
few Sheep in the Wilder-
ness? Meddle not with Things
out of your proper Sphear, but
for my Apology I must answer in
the Words of David; What
have I now done? Is there
not a Cause?

Does

The Preface.

Does not the whole Nation suffer for the Bigotry of our weeping Women? Is not the Publick Tranquility ruffled by their Tears, and even the Protestant Interest endangered by their Passions, as they give an handle to cunning Men to lead captive silly Women, ever Learning, but never coming to the Knowledge of the Truth of the Nation's Interest?

These Reasons, with the Importance of some Friends, have prevailed with me to publish this Discourse, which was read to an Assembly of LADIES on the 7th of June last, being the Thanksgiving-Day.

I hope,

The Preface.

I hope, that whilst others of more elevated Parts, and exalted Stations, were making their Offerings of Gold and Purple to the Tabernacle, Goat's Hair, and Badger's Skins may be accepted of me, as the Widow's Mite in the Gospel was.

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The Preface.

I hope, that while others of
more elevated parts, and exalted
stations, were making their Of-
ferings of Gold and Purple to
the adorable, Holy, and
Blessed Trinity, I have been
of use, as I have in
the Gospel.

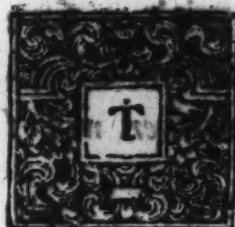


H. E. R.



EZEKIEL VIII. 14.

*There sat Women weeping
for Tammuz.*



O name a Text relating to Weeping on a Day of Exultation and Joy seems odd; but being assur'd there will be a multitude of Mourners, especially of Women, weeping for their Idol; the reprovng of such, is a Demonstration of our own Joy, which, I hope, will Apologize for my choice of these Words.

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If you read the Context, both before and after, you will find the wretched Propension of the People *Israel* towards Idolatry shew'd in a Vision to the Prophet *Ezekiel*; how all Ranks of Men, Priests, and Ancients had corrupted their Ways, by a gradual Encrease from lesser to greater Abominations, among which one of the most ridiculous Crimes is set out in the Text *weeping Women*; The Ceremony of their lamenting *Tammuz*, or the Sun's departure would be too long to insist on; 'tis enough for our purpose to find their Weeping condemn'd for a most heinous Sin, and threaten'd with a fore Destruction in the last Verse of this Chapter, *Mine Eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity.*

There sat Women weeping. Women's Tears in all Ages have been the subject of Railery and Banter, a sort of Chymical Preparation bought upon some Occasions in the Eastern Countries, so we read in the 9th Chapter of *Jeremiah* and 17th Verse, of *Mourning Women*, that are also called



called *Cunning Women*, who took pay for their Tears; such was the Widow of *Tekoah* employ'd by *Joab* in the II Sam. XIV. 2. but never any Age had more Tears shed, and less Reason for it, than the present Time we live in. The Women's Heads are what the Prophet *Jeremiah* for noble Reasons wish'd his to be, viz. Waters, and their Eyes Fountains of Tears, but the cause of their Tears are quite the Reverse, he for the Miseries of his Country, they because their Country is not in Misery.

Our present Women, like those in the Text, are *Weeping for Tammuz*: *Tammuz*, you must know was an Idol worshipp'd in *Judea*; and adoring this *Tammuz*, or *Adonis*, caus'd the Destruction of that City that was call'd the Joy of the whole Earth, the City of the great King, *Psal.* 48. and pray how little Inferiour is our modern Idolizing an Idolater, and how near we were to Destruction for it, all People in their Wits very well know, and our Deliverance from it, is what we

are this Day called by Authority to acknowledge, in a publick Manner; but even in this Day of our Joy, we shall most assuredly have *Women weeping for Tammuz*, nay, our Men have found some Tears, they have been drunk for their *Tammuz*, and it were well if they had done no worse: To dry up these Womens's Tears by Arguments, is a Method we do not find the Prophets of Old us'd, because 'twould be in vain, and the Reason is, they are not wholly the Effect of Ignorance and a weak Judgment, if they were, there would be some Hopes of succeeding in the Attempt, but they are the Effect of Stubbornness, the very same Temper of those Women mention'd in *Jer. 44. 15. All the Women that stood by, answer'd Jeremiah, saying, As for the Word that thou hast spoken unto us, — we will not hearken unto thee, we will burn Incense to the Queen of Heaven.* The Queen of Heaven in their Days was *Diana*, in our Days (the more is the pity) she is the Blessed Virgin: But Idolaters of all Perswasions, Pagan, or Christian, (I should have

have said Anti-christian) are still the same; only in one respect the Women of the present Age deserve the most to be wonder'd at! Not one Woman that worshipped the G O D of *Israel* ever wept for *Tammuz*; but now a-days the High Worshippers of the same G O D weep most for *Tammuz*: Amazing Contradiction! prodigious Product of the Dreggs of Time, fatal to the World, which though never to be drown'd by a Deluge of Water is now more than ever threaten'd by a Briny Torrent of Tears! And where is the *Ararat* that can save us? Miserable distracted People! How justly may it be said to us as *Jeremiah* said to those Women in the before-cited Chapter, *Vers* 26. *Behold, I have sworn, &c. That my Name shall no more be named in the Mouth of any one of Judah in all the Land of Egypt.* Fatal Curse the direful Effect of their wicked Choice! You may read the Story at large in this Chapter: *Egypt* was their Choice, and Ignorance their Curse. They were high Voluntaries to the Queen of Heaven, and therefore

therefore were doom'd blindly to serve Her : Had the like dreadful Sentence gone out against this Nation, who could have been blamed but your own wicked selves ; you madly desired a *Popish* King, and you shall be condemned to worship the Images he has set up.

From the Text thus opened, I shall raise the following Observations.

I. That 'tis a certain sign of being weary of the true Religion, when the cause of our Grief is, that its most avowed implacable Enemies did not succeed in their bloody Designs against it.

II. That to Weep when Providence calls us to Rejoice, is Rebelling against GOD, acting contrary to the Almighty's Design.

III. That those that thus act contrary to GOD in Disobedience, GOD will act contrary to them in a way of Judgment.

IV. That

IV. That there is no greater Judgment can befall a People than to be given up to their own foolish Choice; so that those that thus weep for *Tammuz*, *Tammuz* should make to weep.

Of these in their Order, with some Reflections upon the present Carriage of our *modern Women*, and so conclude.

I. It is a certain sign of being weary of the true Religion, when the cause of our Grief is, that its most avowed implacable Enemies did not succeed in their bloody Designs against it.

It is an ancient and true Proverb, *Persons are known by the Company they keep*; what may we judge of those then that call themselves Protestants, whose delight is wholly in the Conversation of *Papists*? What Harangues do we hear in their Praise? With what Respect do they Address their Persons? What soft Names do they give to their gross Superstitions? The *Popish* Tenets are in the esteem

esteem of our Women harmless and indifferent 'tis much easier in their Opinion to be an Idolatrous *Papist*, than a Protestant *Presbyterian*, and because they have not lived in the World an Hundred and Fifty Years, so as to have seen the Martyrs dragged to the Stake, they will not believe one Word of the Matter: The Mileries of the *French* Protestants are so far from being credited, that though they have seen Thousands of them flee to *Great Britain* for Sanctuary, all that has been said of their Sufferings goes for Lies, and they treat them with that Envy, Scorn, and Contempt, as if they deserved a worse Persecution here, than they were threatened with in their own Country; the *French* King's flagrant Tyranny is called, August Magnificence; the Martyrs Tears under his Diabolical Cruelty, cannot in the least affect them, whilst a *Demerwater*, an *Oxborough*, and a *Gascoigne* receiving the due Reward of their Deeds, are lamented with Tears of Blood; and as 'tis usual with People of strong boisterous Passions, weak Judgments;

ments, and great Stubbornness to give the deaf Ear to all that is said to compose them ; so here tell them these Persons you thus grieve for, designed to subvert our Holy Religion, invade our Liberties, and every Thing that is dear to us, it rather increases their Rage ; and with Floods of Tears they blubber out spiteful Words against King *G E O R G E*, and with the same Breath that they call the wisest and best of Kings cruel, snob out what they would do were it in their Power : Besure, had they succeeded, the Royal Family, and what they call Low Church, had been Hecatombs to their Fury.

Thus their Grief for the Rebels, and stubborn Carriage demonstrates that they are weary of the true Religion, and long to burn Incense to the Queen of Heaven, and pour out Drink-offerings to Her, which brings me to the second Observation.

C

II. That

II. That to weep when Providence calls us to Rejoice, is Rebelling against GOD, and such a Carriage is acting contrary to his Design. Well might the Prophet *Samuel* say, That Rebellion is as the Sin of Witchcraft, whilst the adherers to it not only live and act as if they were bewitched, but spare no pains to allure others into the Infatuation: To weep when Providence calls for thankful Joy, is as great a Sin as *in our Fasts to find Pleasure, and exact all Labours*, *Isaiah LVIII. 3.* for which contradicting Carriage of *Israel* the Prophet, was commanded to cry aloud and spare not, to lift up his Voice like a Trumpet, to shew that People their Transgression, and the House of *Jacob* their Sin.

When wicked *Haman* had got the irreversible Seal fixed to that fatal Decree, *To destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish all Jews both Young and Old, little Children and Women, in one Day.* A Plot of the very same Nature of what we this Day rejoice

rejoice to have been delivered from, the
 Extirpation of the Northern Heresy. Had
 the Jews acted as so vast a Number of
 Protestants now do, what a Figure would
 they have made in Chronicle: How a-
 mazing would it be to see the *Jews* in
 the City of *Shushan* triumphing with Gar-
 lands and Flowers on the Day the De-
 cree was signed for their Destruction;
 and when Providence by a wonderful
 Conduct had brought about the Hanging
 of *Haman*, the *Jews's* Enemy, upon the
 very Gallows, he with so much Art had
 raised for their Patron *Mordecai*, to see
 the *Jews* with mournful Hieroglyphical
 Branches lamenting *Haman's* Death, such
 a sight of Stupidity would indeed have
 called for Fountains of Tears; but not
 so did the City *Shushan*, they rejoiced
 and were glad for their mighty Delive-
 rance, as you may read in the VIIIth
 Chapter of the Book of *Esther*, of which
 the Deliverance we commemorate this
 Day is a most exact Parallel, therefore our
 counter Carriage to GOD's People, un-
 der the same merciful Providence, is a

most heinous Sin, and as such Prognosticates fatal Judgments ; which brings me to the third Thing I observed,

III. That those that thus act contrary to GOD in Disobedience, GOD will act contrary to them in a way of Judgment. Of this we have innumerable Instances in sacred Writ, *Leviticus XXVI.* the Almighty *Jehovah* tells them what they must expect in the 27th and 28th Verses, *And if ye will not hearken unto me, but will walk contrary unto me ; Then I will walk contrary unto you also in Fury, and I, even I, will chastise you for your Sins.*

But infinite Mercy that pity'd the *Nevites* will, I hope, upon the same Account, compassionate our modern contradictory Creatures, who as to Reason and Religion, cannot discern their Right-hand from their Left, and some of the most noisy of them literally cannot ; therefore, if they had their foolish Choice, it would be the greatest Judgment that could befall

fall them, which is the fourth and last Thing I observed to you,

IV. That there is no greater Judgment can befall a People than to be given up to their own foolish Choice; so that those that thus weep for *Tammuz*, *Tammuz* should make to weep.

To describe the Miseries and Calamities, the Devastations and Blood, which would have ensued, had our Mourning Women's Prayers been heard, requires an abler Genius, than I'm possess'd of, especially if I should try to paint the *Egyptian* Darkness that would have followed; the Sun would have been darkened, *viz.* the alone Merits of the Blessed Jesus, fatally eclipsed by Crowds of Mountebank Saints, beholden to tricking Juglers, who with Puppets and Legerdemain Amusements hide the Deformities, and Screen the Impotence of their pretended Divinities: These would arbitrarily wrest the Holy Bible out of our Hands, and in its Stead give us to read *Popish* Legends;

gends; thus the Moon would not have given us Light, *viz.* the Holy Scriptures compared to the Moon in Prophetical Writings, as deriving her Light from the Sun of Righteousness, and shining on us, conveys to us the Knowledge of Jesus. Fatal Effect of a perverse Choice, which no Pencil can draw to the Life; therefore, as *Timanthes*, when about to draw *Agamemnon's* Sorrow for his Daughter just going to be Sacrificed, to hide the Poverty of his Skill in Painting, not able to express a Grief so aggravated, drew a Mantle over the tender Father's Face, so I must here leave an Ellipsis (in the Description of the melancholly Scene, which would have followed had our Enemies prevailed) only to be filled up by those that have felt *Popish* Cruelty, but never to be so much as conceived by those happy Persons that live in a Protestant Country.

And

And now upon the whole, how very Melancholly must be the Reflection to any true Protestant, to see the Women of all Ranks and Distinctions amongst us, and so many of all sorts of People weary of their Religion, and because 'tis the way which the *Romans* call Heresy, are willing to forsake the G O D of their Fathers.

I may say to this Nation what St. *Paul* said to the *Galatians* ; Oh ! foolish *Britons*, who has bewitched you that you should Apostatize from the Truth ? Have you suffered so many Things in vain, if it be yet in vain ? Are you returning to the *Garlick* and *Onions* of *Egypt*, when you have been Feasted with the Royal Dainties of *Aspher* ? Are you Sick of the Spiritual Manna, and Surfeited with Heavenly Knowledge, convey'd to us by those Confessors in the *Marian* Reign, the Noble Army of Martyrs ? If so, if you Sin thus wilfully after that you have received
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M1-

the Knowledge of the Truth, there remain-
eth no more Sacrifice for Sin, but a cer-
tain fearful looking for of Judgment and
fery Indignation, which shall devour such
Adversaries.



only known by those
Consider in the Roman Reign, the Wo-
man of Sodom? If so, if you sin
this way, after that you have entered
the

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